

REMARKS

This response is provided to the Office Action of September 30th, 2003, wherein the Examiner has made a restriction requirement, pursuant to 35 USC §121. In particular, the Action has identified four (4) different claim groups in the 10 originally presented claims.

In response, without adopting the characterization of the claims presented in the Action, Applicant elects group III (claims 5-7) for prosecution herein, and has cancelled, without prejudice, the claims in group I (claim 1), group II (claims 2-4) and group IV (claims 8-10), as above.

With this response, Applicant has taken the opportunity to correct lingering informalities identified within the remaining claims, and has selectively amended the claims, as presented above. In addition, Applicant has added new claims to capture an example method embodiment for practicing the invention, and an example system level embodiment for practicing the invention. Support for the new amendments can be found in the original specification, claims and/or figures and, as such, no new matter has been introduced. Accordingly, upon entry of this amendment, claims 5-7 and 11-22, as selectively amended, are pending.

CONCLUSION

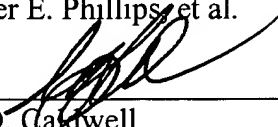
Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner allow all pending claims. Should it be determined that an additional fee is due under 37 CFR §§1.16 or 1.17, or any excess fee has been received, please charge that fee or credit the amount of overcharge to deposit account #02-2666. If the Examiner believes that there are any informalities which can be

corrected by an Examiner's amendment, a telephone call to the undersigned is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
Christopher E. Phillips et al.

Dated: November 21, 2003

by:



Gregory D. Caldwell
Reg. No. 39,926

c/o Blakely, Sokoloff, Taylor & Zafman, LLP
12400 Wilshire Blvd., 7th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90025
Telephone: (503) 264-3059

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313 on:

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